P. ENT COOPERATION TREA;

From the	INTER	NATIONAL	BUREAU
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PCT

NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

To:

Commissioner
US Department of Commerce
United States Patent and Trademark
Office, PCT
2011 South Clark Place Room
CP2/5C24
Arlington, VA 22202

ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE in its capacity as elected Office

Date of mailing (day/month/year) 10 January 2001 (10.01.01)

International application No. PCT/EP00/01375

International filing date (day/month/year) 19 February 2000 (19.02.00) Applicant's or agent's file reference xsy005wo

Priority date (day/month/year) 10 May 1999 (10.05.99)

Applicant

STIEGLER, Andreas et al

i.	The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:
	X in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:
	08 December 2000 (08.12.00)
	in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:
2.	The election X was was not
*	made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland Authorized officer

S. Mafla

Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35

ENT COOPERATION TREA

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

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The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland

Authorized officer

S. Mafla

Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35 Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38

PCT

INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT

(Artikel 36 und Regel 70 PCT)

			(Artikel 30 und	a nege	31 70 PC	1)
Aktenzeic xsy005v		es Anmelders oder Anwalts	WEITERES VORG	SEHEN		lung über die Übersendung des internationalen Prüfungsberichts (Formblatt PCT/IPEA/416)
Internation	nales A	Aktenzeichen	Internationales Anmeld	edatum(Ta	g/Monat/Jahr)	Prioritätsdatum (Tag/Monat/Tag)
PCT/EP			19/02/2000	, ,		10/05/1999
H04L12	/64	atentklassifikation (IPK) oder r		nd IPK		
Behö	irde e	rstellt und wird dem Anme	elder gemäß Artikel 36	übermitte	elt.	nalen vorläufigen Prüfung beauftragten
/	Außer und/od Behör	der Zeichnungen, die geär	NLAGEN bei; dabei h ndert wurden und dies htigungen (siehe Reg	andelt es em Berich	sich um Blät nt zugrunde l	ter mit Beschreibungen, Ansprüchen iegen, und/oder Blätter mit vor dieser : 607 der Verwaltungsrichtlinien zum PCT)
<i>D</i> .030		gen umassen megesame	·			,
3. Diese	er Ber	icht enthält Angaben zu fo	olgenden Punkten:			
1	Ø	Grundlage des Berichts Priorität				
111			autachtens über Neuh	eit. erfinde	erische Tätio	keit und gewerbliche Anwendbarkeit
١٧		Mangelnde Einheitlichke		- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	g	
V	Ø	•	nach Artikel 35(2) hin			der erfinderischen Tätigkeit und der ung dieser Feststellung
VI		Bestimmte angeführte U	nterlagen			
VII		Bestimmte Mängel der ir	nternationalen Anmeld	lung		
VIII		Bestimmte Bemerkunge	n zur internationalen A	Anmeldunç	3	•
Datum der	Einreid	chung des Antrags		Datum de	er Fertigstellun	g dieses Berichts
08/12/20	00		i	07.02.20	01	
	auftrag	schrift der mit der internationaten Behörde:	alen vorläufigen	Bevollmä	chtigter Bedier	nsteter State CO CO Miles Co
<u>)</u>))	D-80 Tel	päisches Patentamt 298 München +49 89 2399 - 0 Tx: 523656 6 +49 89 2399 - 4465	epmu d	Pajatak	is, E 49 89 2399 88	See
				1 GI. 1 VI. 🛨	UU EUJJ 00	

INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT

Internationales Aktenzeichen PCT/EP00/01375

I. Grun	dlage	des	Berichts
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١.	Gi	undlage des bene	mo
1.	Ar nic	tikel 14 hin vorgeleg	erstellt auf der Grundlage (<i>Ersatzblätter, die dem Anmeldeamt auf eine Aufforderung nach</i> at wurden, gelten im Rahmen dieses Berichts als "ursprünglich eingereicht" und sind ihm aie keine Änderungen enthalten.): n:
	1-	11	ursprüngliche Fassung
	Pa	tentansprüche, Nr.	·
	1-1	10	ursprüngliche Fassung
	Ze	ichnungen, Nr.:	
	1,2	?	ursprüngliche Fassung
2.	die	internationale Anm	he: Alle vorstehend genannten Bestandteile standen der Behörde in der Sprache, in der eldung eingereicht worden ist, zur Verfügung oder wurden in dieser eingereicht, sofern chts anderes angegeben ist.
		Bestandteile stand gereicht; dabei hand	en der Behörde in der Sprache: zur Verfügung bzw. wurden in dieser Sprache delt es sich um
		die Sprache der Ü Regel 23.1(b)).	bersetzung, die für die Zwecke der internationalen Recherche eingereicht worden ist (nach
		die Veröffentlichur	ngssprache der internationalen Anmeldung (nach Regel 48.3(b)).
		die Sprache der Ü ist (nach Regel 55	bersetzung, die für die Zwecke der internationalen vorläufigen Prüfung eingereicht worden .2 und/oder 55.3).
3.			nternationalen Anmeldung offenbarten Nucleotid- und/oder Aminosäuresequenz ist die e Prüfung auf der Grundlage des Sequenzprotokolls durchgeführt worden, das:
		in der international	len Anmeldung in schriftlicher Form enthalten ist.
		zusammen mit der	internationalen Anmeldung in computerlesbarer Form eingereicht worden ist.
		bei der Behörde na	achträglich in schriftlicher Form eingereicht worden ist.
		bei der Behörde na	achträglich in computerlesbarer Form eingereicht worden ist.
		Die Erklärung, daß	das nachträglich eingereichte schriftliche Sequenzprotokoll nicht über den It der internationalen Anmeldung im Anmeldezeitpunkt hinausgeht, wurde vorgelegt.
		•	die in computerlesbarer Form erfassten Informationen dem schriftlichen entsprechen, wurde vorgelegt.
4.	Auf	grund der Änderung	en sind folgende Unterlagen fortgefallen:

INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT

Internationales Aktenzeichen PCT/EP00/01375

		Beschreibung,	Seiten:			
		Ansprüche,	Nr.:			
		Zeichnungen,	Blatt:			
5.			en nach Auf	fassu	ng der Behör	en) der Änderungen erstellt worden, da diese aus den de über den Offenbarungsgehalt in der ursprünglich)).
		(Auf Ersatzblätter, die beizufügen).	e solche Änd	derun	gen enthalter	n, ist unter Punkt 1 hinzuweisen;sie sind diesem Bericht
6.	Etwa	aige zusätzliche Beme	erkungen:			
V.						ich der Neuheit, der erfinderischen Tätigkeit und der ungen zur Stützung dieser Feststellung
1.	Fest	stellung				
	Neul	neit (N)			Ansprüche Ansprüche	1-10
	Erfin	derische Tätigkeit (E1			Ansprüche Ansprüche	1-10
	Gew	erbliche Anwendbark	eit (GA) J	la:	Ansprüche	1-10

Nein: Ansprüche

2. Unterlagen und Erklärungen siehe Beiblatt

INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT - BEIBLATT

Zu Punkt V

Begründete Feststellung nach Artikel 35(2) hinsichtlich der Neuheit, der erfinderischen Tätigkeit und der gewerblichen Anwendbarkeit; Unterlagen und Erklärungen zur Stützung dieser Feststellung

- 1. Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 1 ist neu und erfinderisch (Artikel 33(2)(3)).
- 1.1. Der Anspruch 1 betrifft ein lokales Netzwerk mit mehreren Teilnehmern, die mittels einer optischen Datenleitung zur Übertragung von Audio- und/oder Videodaten sowie von Steuerdaten zu einem ringförmigen Netzwerk verbunden sind.

Ein derartiges Netzwerk ist aus D1 = US-A-5 867 484 bekannt. D1 offenbart ein Netzwerk mit Teilnehmern, die eine Quelle für komprimierte Audio- und Videodaten darstellen und Teilnehmern, die eine Senke für übertragene Audiodaten bzw. Videodaten darstellen. Die Senken haben einen Bit-Stream-Decoder zur Decodierung der zugeführten Audio- und Videodaten sowie einer Trennstufe zur Trennung der gemeinsam übertragenen Audio- von den Videodaten. Die Senken sind jeweils mit einer Steuereinheit versehen, die geeignet ist, eine Art der übertragenen Daten einer dieser Senke zugeordneten Ausgabeeinheit zur Wiedergabe zuzuführen.

- 1.2 Der Gegenstand des Anspruchs 1 unterscheidet sich von D1 in dem gewisse Senken derart ausgestaltet sind, daß, nach der Trennung der Audio- von den Videodaten, eine Art von Daten über die optische Datenleitung des Netzwerkes einer anderen Senke zugeführt werden, die die ihr zugeführten Daten einer ihr zugeordneten Ausgabeeinheit zur Wiedergabe zuführt.
 - Auf dieser Art wird eine Vereinfachung erreicht, weil nicht jede Datensenke einen eigenen Decoder sowie eine eigene Trennstufe braucht.
- 1.3 Die obengenannte Rückführung von decodierten Daten zum Netzwerk wird durch den Stand der Technik nicht nahegelegt.
 - Die in D1 offenbarte Senken haben Decodern, die jeweils mehrere

INTERNATIONALER VORLÄUFIGER PRÜFUNGSBERICHT - BEIBLATT

Ausgabeeinheiten versorgen. Diese Ausgabeeinheiten sind jedoch der gleichen Senke zugeordnet und werden mit Punkt-zu-Punkt Verbindungen mit dem Decoder verbunden. Dabei werden dekodierte Daten den Ausgabeeinrichtungen zugeführt. Von einer Rückführung von dekodierten Daten wird abgeraten, denn Daten, die nicht für die Ausgabeeinheiten einer bestimmte Senke adressiert sind, werden unverändert zur nächsten Senke weitergeleitet.

Die übrigen Dokumente des Recherchenberichts gehen über den Inhalt von **D1** nicht hinaus, weil kein dieser Dokumente eine Rückführung von dekodierten Daten zum Netzwerk offenbart.

- 2. Die obengenannte Feststellung gilt auch für die Ansprüche 8 und 9, die dem Anspruch 1 entsprechen.
- 3. Die abhängigen Ansprüche betreffen spezielle Ausführungen der Merkmale des Anspruchs 1 und sind demnach ebenso neu und erfinderisch.



PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of Internation Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/41)
xsy005wo International application No. PCT/EP00/01375	International filing date (day/month/year) 19 February 2000 (19.02.00) Priority date (day/month/year) 10 May 1999 (10.05.99)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or n H04L 12/64	
Applicant XS	YS INTERACTIVE RESEARCH GMBH
This international preliminary exa Authority and is transmitted to the a	mination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining pplicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of	5 sheets, including this cover sheet.
been amended and are the b	nied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have asis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).
These annexes consist of a t	otal of sheets.
3. This report contains indications rela	ing to the following items:
Busis of the report	
II Priority	
	of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
IV Lack of unity of in	vention
Reasoned statemen	at under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; nations supporting such statement
VI Certain documents	cited
VII Certain defects in	the international application
VIII Certain observatio	ns on the international application
Date of submission of the demand	Date of completion of this report
08 December 2000 (08.	12.00) 07 February 2001 (07.02.2001)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

Translation



tional application No.	
PCT/FP00/01375	

1. Basis of the	e report	-	
1. This report	t has been drawn c le 14 are referred to	on the basis of (Replacement sheet in this report as "originally filed"	s which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation and are not annexed to the report since they do not contain amendments.):
	the international	application as originally filed.	
\boxtimes	the description,	pages	_, as originally filed,
		pages	_, filed with the demand,
		pages	, filed with the letter of
:		pages	, filed with the letter of
\square	the claims,	Nos. 1-10	as originally filed.
	the craims,		, as amended under Article 19,
		Nos.	1
			, filed with the letter of
			, filed with the letter of
5 71	the drawings	sheets/fig 1, 2	as originally filed
	the drawings,	sheets/fig	1
			, filed with the letter of,
			, filed with the letter of
2 The amend	mente have result	ed in the cancellation of:	
2. The amend		pages	
	the claims,	Nos.	
	the drawings,	sheets/fig	
3. This to go	report has been es beyond the disclo	stablished as if (some of) the amosure as filed, as indicated in the	endments had not been made, since they have been considered examplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
4. Additional	observations, if no	ecessary:	

v.	Reasoned statement under Article 3 citations and explanations supporti		y, inventive step or industrial appl	icability;
1.	Statement			
	Novelty (N)	Claims	1-10	YES
		Claims		NO NO
	Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-10	YES
		Claims		NO NO
	Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-10	YES
		Claims		NO

- 2. Citations and explanations
 - 1. The subject matter of Claim 1 is novel and inventive (PCT Article 33(2) and (3)).
 - 1.1. Claim 1 relates to a local network with a plurality of subscribers who are connected to a ring network by means of an optical data line for transmitting audio and/or video data as well as control data.

A network of this type is known from US-A-5 867 484 (D1). D1 discloses a network with subscribers who represent a source for compressed audio and video data and subscribers who represent a sink for transmitted audio and video data. The sinks have a bit stream decoder for decoding the supplied audio and video data as well as a separator stage for separating the simultaneously transmitted audio and video data from each other. Each sink is provided with a control unit that is suitable for feeding for playback one type of transmitted data to an output unit allocated to this sink.

1.2. The subject matter of Claim 1 differs from **D1** by the fact that certain sinks are arranged in such a way that after the separation of the audio from the video data, one type of data is fed via the network optical data line to another sink, which feeds the data fed thereto for playback to an output unit allocated thereto.

A simplification is achieved in this way because not every data sink requires its own decoder or its own separator stage. 1.3. The above-mentioned feedback of decoded data to the network is not suggested by the prior art.

The sinks disclosed in **D1** have decoders that each supply a plurality of output units. However, these output units are allocated to the same sink and are connected to the decoder via point-to-point connections, decoded data being fed to the output units. The feedback of decoded data is discouraged because data that are not addressed for the output units of a given sink will be forwarded unchanged to the next sink.

The remaining documents in the search report do not go beyond the content of **D1** because none of these documents discloses the feedback of decoded data to the network.

- 2. The above observation also applies to Claims 8 and 9, which correspond to Claim 1.
- 3. The dependent claims relate to special embodiments of the features of Claim 1 and are thus also novel and inventive.

[page 1]

TREATY ON INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION IN THE FIELD OF PATENTS **PCT**

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT (Article 36 and Rule 70 PCT)

Reference of the applicant or attorney: xsy005wo

FURTHER PROCEDURE: See notification about transmittal of the international preliminary test report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)

International reference: PCT/EP00/01375

International application date (day/month/year): February 19, 2000

Priority date (day/month/year): May 10, 1999

International patent classification (IPK) or national classification and IPK: H04L 12/64

Applicant: XSYS INTERACTIVE RESEARCH GMBH et al.

- 1. This international preliminary examination report was issued by the agency commissioned with the international preliminary examination, and is transmitted to the applicant in accordance with Article 36.
- 2. This REPORT comprises a total of 5 pages including this cover page.
- 9 Furthermore, the report has ANNEXES; these are pages with descriptions, claims, and/or drawings, which have been modified and which are the basis of this report, and/or pages with corrections made by this agency (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the administrative guidelines to the PCT).

These annexes contain altogether pages.

3. This report contains information on the following points:

I : Basis of the report

II 9 Priority

[page 1a]

III 9 Expert opinion about novelty, inventive action, and commercial application has not been submitted

IV 9 Invention insufficiently integral

V : Substantiated observation, in accordance with Article 35(2), regarding novelty, inventive action, and commercial applicability; documents and explanations to support this observation

VI 9 Certain cited documents

VII 9 Certain deficiencies of the international application

VIII 9 Certain remarks regarding the international application

Date the petition was submitted: December 8, 2000

Date this report was issued: February 7, 2001

Name and postal address of the agency commissioned with the international preliminary examination:

European Patent Office D-80298 Munich

Tel.: +49 89 2399-0, Telex: 523656 epmu d

Fax: +49 89 2399-4465

Authorized staff person:

Pajatakis, E.

Tel. No.: +49 89 2399 8898

[page 2] I.Basis of the Report

1. This report was issued on the basis (Supplementary pages, which were submitted to the application office pursuant to a request in accordance with Article 14, will count in the context of this report as "originally submitted" and are not attached to it, because they contain no changes.):

Description, Pages:

1-11 Original version

Claims, No.:

1-10 Original version

Drawings, Pages:

- 1, 2 Original version
- 2. As regards **language**: All the above components were available to the agency in the language in which the international application was submitted unless otherwise specified under this point.

These components were available to the agency in the language or were submitted in this language. This involves:

- 9 The language of the translation, which was submitted for the purpose of the international search (according to Rule 23.1(b)).
- 9 The publication language of the international application (according to Rule 48.3(b)).
- 9 The language of the translation, which was submitted for the purpose of the preliminary international examination (according to Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).
- 3. As regards the nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the

international application, the preliminary international application has been performed on the basis of the sequence protocol, which:

- 9 is contained in the international application in written form.
- 9 was submitted in computer-readable form together with the international application.

[page 2a]

- 9 was submitted to the agency subsequently in written form.
- 9 was submitted to the agency subsequently in computer-readable form.
- 9 The declaration that the subsequently submitted written sequence protocol does not extend beyond the disclosed content of the international application at the time of the application has been presented.
- 9 The declaration that the information included in the computer-readable form corresponds to the written sequence protocol has been presented.
- 4. On the basis of the changes, the following documents are deleted:

[page 3]

- 9 Description, Pages:
- 9 Claims, No.:
- 9 Drawings, Page:
- 5. 9 This report has been issued without considering (some of) the changes, since these, for the specified reasons, in the opinion of the Examiner, exceed the disclosure of the originally submitted version (Rule 70.2(c)).

(Supplementary sheets containing such changes are referenced under Point 1; they must be attached to this report).

- 6. Possible additional remarks:
- V. Substantiated determination, in accordance with Article 35(2), regarding novelty, inventive action, and commercial applicability; documents and explanations to support this observation
- 1. Determination

Novelty (N) Yes: Claims 1-10

No: Claims

Inventive action (ET) Yes: Claims 1-10

No: Claims

Commercial applicability (GA) Yes: Claims 1-10

No: Claims

2. Documents and Explanations

See attached page

[page 4]
INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT - ATTACHED
PAGE

International reference: PCT/EP00/01375

Regarding Point V

Substantiated determination, in accordance with Article 35(2), regarding novelty, inventive action, and commercial applicability; documents and explanations to support this determination.

- 1. The subject of Claim 1 is novel and inventive (Article 33(2)(3)).
- 1.1 Claim 1 relates to a local network with several subscribers, which are connected into a ring network by means of an optical data line to transmit audio and/or video data as well as control data.

Such a network is known from D1 = US-A-5 867 484. D1 discloses a network with subscribers, who are configured as a source for compressed audio and video data, and subscribers who are configured as a sink for transmitted audio data or video data. The sinks have a bit stream decoder for decoding their incoming audio and video data, as well as a separation stage for separating the jointly transmitted audio data and video data. Each sink has a control unit, which can conduct one type of transmitted data to an output unit, associated with the sink, in order to be reproduced there.

1.2 The subject of Claim 1 differs from D1 in that certain sinks are designed in such a way that, after the audio data are separated from the video data, one type of data is conducted, through the optical data line of the network, to another sink, which conducts its incoming data to an output unit associated with it, so as to be reproduced there.

This achieves a simplification, because not every data sink needs to have its own decoder and its own separation stage.

1.3 The above feedback of the decoded data to the network is not made obvious by the prior art.

The sinks disclosed in D1 have decoders, each of which supply several

[page 5]

output units. However, these output units are assigned to the same sink and are connected to the decoder with point-to-point connections. Decoded data are here conducted to the output devices. Feedback of decoded data is advised against, since data which are not addressed to the output units of a particular sink are forwarded unchanged to the next sink.

The remaining documents of the Search Report do not go beyond the content of D1, because none of these documents discloses feedback of the decoded data to the network.

- 2. The above determination also applies to Claims 8 and 9, which correspond to Claim 1.
- 3. The dependent claims relate to special designs of the characteristics of Claim 1, and accordingly are also novel and inventive.